



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES
RICHARD MILLER
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

STEVE ARWOOD
DIRECTOR

MICHIGAN FIRE FIGHTERS TRAINING COUNCIL
3101 Technology Blvd., Suite H
Lansing, Michigan

STUDY SESSION MINUTES

December 10, 2013

10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Timothy James, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
David Purchase, Michigan Municipal League/Michigan Township Association
Richard Miller, State Fire Marshal, Council Member ex-Officio
Steve Richardson, Michigan State Firemen's Association
Brian Blomstrom, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union
Chad Tackett, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs

MEMBERS ABSENT-None

BFS STAFF PRESENT

Joseph Grutza, FFTD Manager
Paula Brzezinski, Curriculum Specialist
BreeAnn Hooker, Recording Secretary
Michael Deprez, Assistant to the State Fire Marshal

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Karl Holder, Rochester Hills Fire Department
Mark Cleveland, Covert Township Fire and EMS

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chris Braverman from the Attorney General, Labor Division office comes to give a broad overview of roles, duties and authority of the Council and to assist in clarification on various issues.

Clarification regarding term appointment and the duration, and also whether the council shall continue to show up to future meetings if no notification has been received by their expiration date.

During discussion of ethical conduct, there is an inquiry of the necessity of Council members signing a conflict of interest form within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

Discussion and clarification of "round-robin" and "chance gatherings", the importance of avoiding these types of discussions was stressed, specifically in regards to council business and council decision making in the scope of the Open Meetings Act. A retention schedule was requested and supplied to the Council.

Physical, mental and moral fitness criteria all lie in the discretion of the council.

The process is the legislature annually appropriates the amount of money deemed necessary for purposes of the act and cannot exceed 75% of the money paid into the fund, the Council then requests the minimum disbursement amounts to be approved by the State Fire Marshal. The Council inquires as to whether or not they are entitled to review these funds to better comprehend a dollar amount they are able to work with. Mr. Braverman refrains from answering this question until more information can be gathered considering the Attorney General represents all agencies within LARA.

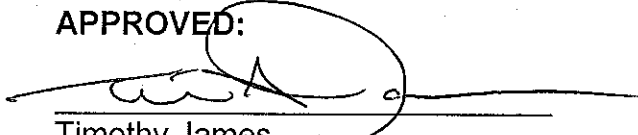
Fireworks Safety Act and the safety fees that are collected under that act, 100% of those funds must be used for the training of fire fighters under the direction and approval of Council. Discussion of eligibility of utilizing these funds for use towards an Executive Secretary and what their roles and duties would include as well as whether or not that position would be by contract or as a state employee.

Upon receipt of the Attorney General Office ruling, the Council respectfully requests a copy.

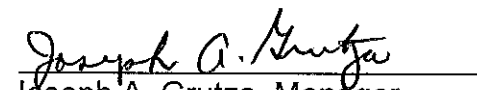
2. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

APPROVED:


Timothy James
Chairperson


Aileen Pottinger
Councilperson


Joseph A. Grutza, Manager
Bureau of Fire Services
Fire Fighter Training Division